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**PLATEAU
MINING
CORPORATION**

Willow Creek Mine
847 NW Hwy 191
Helper, Utah 84526
(435) 472-0475
Fax: (435) 472-4780

An affiliate of **RAG**

June 26, 2001

Gary L. Barker
Amwest Exploration Company
340 Hardscrabble Road
Helper, Utah 84526

RE: Willow Creek Mine

Dear Gary:

By this letter, Plateau Mining Company ("Plateau") hereby authorizes Amwest Exploration Company ("Amwest") to approach, discuss and negotiate necessary permits, authorizations, plans, etc., with MSHA, BLM, OSM, DOGM, and other relevant governmental agencies, to proceed with Amwest's evaluation of the Willow Creek mine conditions and for possible re-entry and further investigation of the mine infrastructure and equipment, for the purposes of conducting due diligence for the possible acquisition of the Willow Creek mine from Plateau, provided that such contact and discussions with the agencies are to be conducted with the understanding that all discussions and information provided are to be held confidential by the agencies and that contact is made under preliminary due diligence purposes only. Amwest shall remain under its current obligations of confidentiality and non-disclosure with respect to all other third parties regarding any potential transactions with Plateau.

Notwithstanding that Plateau has issued this authorization letter to allow Amwest to approach relevant governmental agencies, Amwest and/or any third parties will not be given access to the Willow Creek mine facilities until a formal Access Agreement and Facility Leasing Agreement is executed. Plateau will cooperate, in its discretion, with Amwest to make information and staff available to assist Amwest in its efforts with the relevant governmental agencies.

Should you have any questions regarding the above, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Dennis Ware
Authorized Agent